

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 3, 2005

TO: Chairman

FROM: Inspector General

SUBJECT: Report the Audit of Wireless Network Controls

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) has completed an Audit of Wireless Network Controls. A copy of our Audit Report, entitled "Audit of Wireless Network Controls" (Audit Report No. 04-AUD-10-19) is attached. The objective of this audit was to determine the extent and adequacy of security controls over wireless networks operated and maintained by and/or for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The scope of this audit included only wireless data networks and specifically excluded voice communications.

To accomplish the objectives of this audit, we contracted with the public accounting firm of KPMG, LLP (KPMG). Under our supervision, the KPMG audit team interviewed staff, reviewed documentation, and performed other tests deemed necessary. Finally, KPMG evaluated the status of technical controls by executing automated tools and manual tests on the devices comprising the FCC's wireless data infrastructure. These tests included a vulnerability assessment to test the security of the FCC's wireless assets. KPMG also evaluated the wireless data infrastructure at FCC facilities in Gettysburg, PA, Powder Springs, GA, and Duluth, GA.

During this audit we identified a number of positive security controls in the FCC's wireless data infrastructure, including:

- The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has implemented an intrusion detection system (IDS) to protect their wireless network infrastructure.
- The FCC's Wireless Hot Spot Network (WHSN) is physically separated from the production network.
- Security mechanisms of unauthorized access points were enabled at two (2) Enforcement Bureau (EB) field offices.

While these positive controls were noted, the audit identified eight (8) findings, four (4) medium risk and four (4) low risk. Appendix A, Summary of Findings, summarizes these conditions. Appendix B, Detailed Findings and Observations, contains the detailed results of our audit and contains detailed information about follow-up to the findings of the original audit. Appendix C, Acronyms, lists definitions of terms used in the report.

On May 13, 2005, we provided a draft to the Acting Chief, WTB, for review and comments. On May 31, 2005, the Managing Director, OMD responded. The response stated that five (5) of the eight (8) findings have already been closed. Of the three remaining findings, the response indicated concurrence with the two (2) conditions and partial concurrence with one (1) condition identified in the report. We have included a copy of the response to this report from OMD in its entirety as Appendix D, Management Response.

Because of the sensitive nature of the information contained in the appendices to this report, we have marked all as "Non-Public – For Internal FCC Use Only" and have limited distribution of this report. Those persons receiving this report are requested not to photocopy or otherwise distribute this material.

H. Walker Feaster III Inspector General

Attachment

cc:

Chief of Staff
Managing Director

Chief, Enforcement Bureau

Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

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